



08-17-05

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PTO/SB/21 (04-04)Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031
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|---|----------------------|------------------------|-------------|
| TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) | Application Number | 10/826,079 | |
| | Filing Date | April 16, 2004 | |
| | First Named Inventor | Donald G. Wheatley | |
| | Art Unit | 3612 | |
| | Examiner Name | Kiran B. Patel | |
| Total Number of Pages in This Submission | 17 | Attorney Docket Number | 3110-000039 |

| ENCLOSURES (check all that apply) | | | | |
|--|--|--|---------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Formal Drawings (12 Sheets) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transmittal of Formal Drawings <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Technology Center (TC) <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): Return postcard. | | |
| <table border="1"><tr><td>Remarks</td><td>The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required under 37 CFR 1.16 or 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 08-0750. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.</td></tr></table> | | | Remarks | The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required under 37 CFR 1.16 or 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 08-0750. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. |
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| SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT | | | |
|--|----------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| Firm or Individual name | Harness, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C. | Attorney Name Stanley M. Erjavac / Jeffrey L. Snyder | Reg. No. 38,442 / 43,141 |
| Signature | | | |
| Date | August 16, 2005 | | |

| CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING | | | |
|---|-------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below. | | | |
| Typed or printed name | Jeffrey L. Snyder | Express Mail Label No. | EV 570 164 897 US 8/16/05 |
| Signature | | Date | August 16, 2005 |

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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EV 570 164 897 US



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/826,079
Filing Date: April 16, 2004
Applicant: Donald G. Wheatley
Group Art Unit: 3612
Examiner: Kiran B. Patel
Title: COVERING STRUCTURE HAVING AUTOMATIC
COUPLING SYSTEM
Attorney Docket: 3110-000039

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Sir:

In response to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance in the Notice of Allowance dated June 16, 2005, Applicant makes the following observations.

Applicant respectfully acknowledges the Examiner allowing this application. With respect to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance, however, Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner has incorrectly summarized the patentable features of the present invention. Most notably, Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner has misstated the claim elements of independent Claim 1 when describing "a retaining retaining member retaining said bow member when said bow member is in

said member operably coupled to said support frame, said first position and releasing said bow member when said bow member is in said second position." With respect to Claim 1, Applicant respectfully submits that each and every claim limitation set forth therein is not found in the prior art of record and, thus, deserves the broadest scope of interpretation. Likewise, Claim 10 sets forth claim limitations that differ in scope relative to those set forth in Claim 1, yet deserve the broadest scope of claim interpretation.

Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance in the Notice of Allowance dated June 16, 2005 are at best incomplete and in part incorrect and, thus, should be read in light of the comments set forth herein.

If the Examiner would like to discuss this matter further, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: August 16, 2005

By:



Stanley M. Erjavac, Reg. No. 38,442
Jeffrey L. Snyder, Reg. No. 43,141

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

NOA: June 1, 2005

Application No.: 10/826,079

Filing Date: April 16, 2004

Applicant: Donald G. Wheatley

Group Art Unit: 3612

Examiner: Kiran B. Patel

Title: COVERING STRUCTURE HAVING AUTOMATIC
COUPLING SYSTEM

Attorney Docket: 3110-000039

Director of The United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL OF FORMAL DRAWINGS

Sir:

Enclosed for filing are twelve (12) "Replacement Sheets" including formal drawings (Figs. 1-14) for the above-identified patent application. Applicant respectfully requests that the enclosed FORMAL DRAWINGS replace the most recent drawings filed with the application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: August 16, 2005

By: 

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